

STARTUP AGGIELAND

Student valet service could hit Northgate

Good Bull Parking starts to pick up steam in 2nd year

By Nikita Redkar

In 2013, Good Bull Parking president Javier Cepeda had been working as a valet for two years when he discovered an untapped market for valet parking in College Station.

"Many predominant Texan cities have designated areas with valet parking, so why can't we have it in College Station?" Cepeda said.

Cepeda said people initially told him a valet service in College Station wouldn't work and there was no way his business would survive.

Yet he persevered and officially opened Good Bull Parking for business in March 2014. After one year of operations and admission into A&M's student business accelerator, Startup Aggieldand, Cepeda now plans to expand valet services into the Northgate area.

"We know Northgate has been looking for parking management and on top of that, there's a big problem with alcohol-related incidents," Cepeda said. "[Good Bull Parking] has been in contact with bars in the area and we decided to add our valet service."

Cepeda said he recognizes the liability issue of handing an intoxicated person keys to his or her car, and Good Bull Parking has been working with CSPD and Mothers Against Drunk Driving in order to better determine the intoxication level of a person and whether they are in a state to operate their vehicle.

Cepeda said he wants students to view Good Bull Parking's presence at Northgate as a safe zone.

"If someone is not in a condition to drive, we'll have their car left overnight, hand over their keys and get them a ride home with a taxi or CARPOOL," Cepeda said. "They won't get towed or charged extra."

Michael Pesek, mechanical engineering senior and Good Bull Parking employee, said all members of the business have had an integral part in determining the scope of the expansion.

"Having the opportunity to be a part of a student-run startup is more than a job," Pesek said. "We are all playing a part in the expansion to Northgate."

Cepeda said he does not know exactly when the expansion will be implemented, but he and the business have been actively working with the community and Startup Aggieldand to ensure the project's



Javier Cepeda (left) founded Good Bull Parking, which provides valet service around Bryan-College Station.

success. "[Startup Aggieldand] has spent a lot of time discussing payroll and tax issues with Javier, insurance needs, marketing initiatives and community involvement," said Shelly Brenckman, marketing coordinator at Startup Aggieldand.

"We are big proponents of getting involved locally."

Cepeda said the expansion is a way for the company to reach out to fellow students and peers.

"I think we really have a shot at making this town a little safer," Cepeda said.

UPD CONTINUED

possibly think of could happen on this campus."

Paxton said a patrol officer begins the day with a 45-minute briefing on campus happenings and things to be on the lookout for. Next, the officer checks out equipment and loads up the vehicles, including heavy armor in case of a live shooter incident.

After that, Paxton said officers do a 20-minute inspection of UPD vehicles, including a test of the siren and lights.

For communications officers, Tran said the job is all about multitasking. Not only is it a communications officer's job to answer 9-1-1 calls, but also to monitor cameras and alarms and answer non-emergency calls.

Tran said the largest task for communications officers is acquiring information for officers out on a call.

"We have a lot of resources," Tran said. "We'll stalk people on Facebook, we have a parking database that parking lets us use to find what kind of vehicle they drive, where they park and in the emergency situations we can go through a process of pinging their cell phone and getting an idea of the general area that might be in. That can only be used in life-or-death situations."

No matter how detailed a description the dispatcher gives, Paxton said the officer will — without fail — respond with another question.

"It never fails — after the dispatcher will put the call out the officer will ask some random questions," Paxton said. "It sounds crazy but it's because the officer is probably looking at the person and they are wearing some strange color socks."

Paxton said an officer's task depends largely

on the time of day. During the day, officers tend to see cases such as theft, accidents and welfare concerns.

"Evenings shift you'll see a lot more accidents, you see a lot of hit-and-run accidents," Paxton said. "Evening shift also starts seeing harassment, stalking-type calls, that's when those start coming in. We also start seeing welfare concerns and suicidal subjects. Now night shift that's the shift where it's pretty much officer-initiated stuff. They really get out there and work traffic pretty hard, and they are looking for public intoxication."

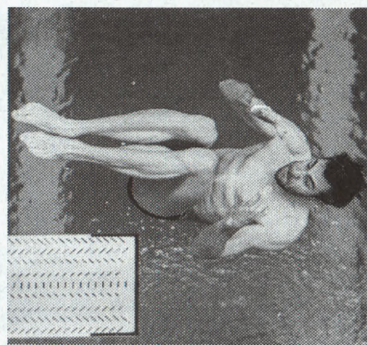
Paxton said a large part of the job is filling out paperwork. Every officer has to file an incident report after speaking with someone about a call. UPD files so many reports that a room is dedicated to storing the paper copies.

Paxton said an interesting fact about the department is that it has statewide jurisdiction.

"The way we get our authority is through the education code," Paxton said. "And it states that any county where A&M owns, leases or rents land in we have jurisdiction of that county and A&M has land in every county in the state of Texas."

Paxton said students should not hesitate to call the department if they are concerned about something.

"Don't wait to call us," Paxton said. "Everyone waits five, 10, 20 minutes. I've had some suspicious-person calls that come in an hour or two after you've observed the person and when you talked to the reporting party they say, 'Well, I went and talked to my professor and they said...' Call us. If it's nothing, no big deal, but just by waiting five minutes the chance of me or one of my officers getting out there and finding the person you are talking about decrease exponentially."



Tyler Henschel

SWIMMING CONTINUED

after racing in the 50-free and 200- and 400-free relays last year. Bolter comes into the championships with a string of impressive performances throughout the year where he set personal bests in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle. The junior beat his personal records at the American Short Course Championships where he swam the 50 in 19.36 and at the SEC Championships with a time of 43.46 seconds in the 100.

With those times, the junior holds the second and eighth fastest times in Texas A&M history for the 50- and 100-yard freestyle.

The NCAA Championships will take place all day from Thursday to Saturday. Thursday's events can be seen online on hawkkeysports.com, and Friday's final events can be streamed on ESPN3.

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Newsday Crossword

THREE-BY-FIVERS by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 What "ginger" starts with
6 Longing
10 Totally destroy
14 No'er-do-well
15 Spiced tea
16 Cyber-bidding site
17 Princess topper
18 Unable to decide
19 Quick letter
20 Finding Your Roots host
23 Car-loan stat.
24 Overexert
25 Farm machines
29 Earth-moving tools
31 Long-running CBS series
34 Canadian author Munro
35 Cold Asian desert
36 Utterly ruin
37 Star of Hugo and Brno
40 Chamber group
41 Depend (on)
42 Practical application
43 Rescue squad VIP
44 Prime-quality
45 Concert's first song
46 Symbol of sympathy
47 Overalls part
48 Black Water novelist
57 Concluded
58 Designer Cassini
59 Common computer font

DOWN
1 Star Wars Episode III villains
2 Garfield canine
3 Spanish custard
4 Okta., before statehood
5 Uncertain situation
6 Thespian
7 Mao colleague
8 Mata
9 Big name in physics
10 Hang loose
11 Not much
12 Big name in western fiction
13 Storm centers
21 Yard-sale staples
22 Home-heating fuel
25 Moisten a turkey
26 Elevator button
27 Permitted by law
28 Iterate
29 Marauding mob
30 One in the wind section
31 "Over There" writer
32 Long battle
33 Word before sole or strength
35 Acquisition
36 Polton portion
38 60 Across
39 Storage area
44 Fiver
45 Home-heating fuel
46 Large quantity
47 Three-putt result, often
48 Wisecrack
49 Orbital shape
50 Vociferate
51 Benedict, in The Imitation Game
52 Split apart
53 Italian for "air"
54 Slight coloration
55 Slacken
56 Snowmobile, essentially

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ANSWERS to todays puzzles

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